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• U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY • PACIFIC NORTHWEST AND ALASKA •

The United States Environmental Protection Agency was established thirty years ago as the country was becoming more aware of our dependence on the natural world. By placing most environmental laws under one agency, the government became more accountable and responsive to the needs of present and future Americans. In the past three decades rivers have become cleaner, skies clearer and our approach to addressing problems more holistic.

From the Regional Office in Seattle, the EPA employees are working to build partnerships with the state and local governments of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington and hundreds of Tribes to continue this progress.



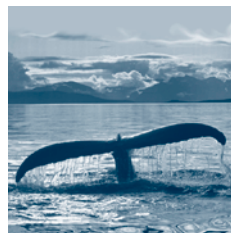
3 **Clean Air** – Tough action on polluters has brought major improvements; the next step is up to you.



19 **Healthy Ecosystems** – Myopic approaches to water and air pollution are now replaced by an understanding of the interconnectedness of our world.



7 **Clean Water** – Improvements to sewer systems, industrial facilities and agriculture are making a difference in your streams and lakes.



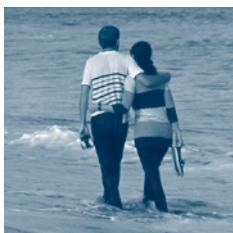
23 **Healthy Planet** – Borders on maps don't stop the effects of poor environmental policies. EPA's work with other countries is leading to benefits at home.



11 **Clean Land** – Everyday we create waste. Cleaning up the mistakes of past disposal and preventing future contamination is leading to safer industrial and residential neighborhoods.



27 **Challenges for the Next Century** – Sustainable practices at work and at home will provide a healthy future for our children and the generations to follow.



15 **Healthy Communities** – The stresses of population growth can erode your quality of life, health and the natural beauty of the world around you. Several communities are making smart decisions for the future.